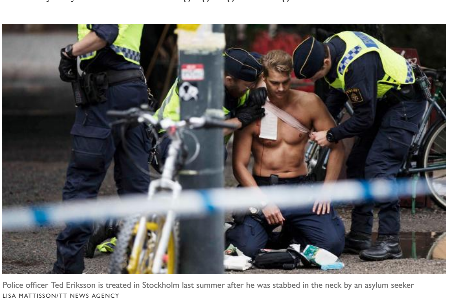
Teens roam streets with rifles as crime swamps Sweden

The army may be called in to halt a gang surge in immigrant areas

Bojan Pancevski, Malmo

January 21 2018, 12:01am,
The Sunday Times



Police officer Ted Eriksson is treated in Stockholm last summer after he was stabbed in the neck by an asylum seeker
LISA MATTISSON/TT NEWS AGENCY

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The blast was so powerful that it shook windows a mile away. Ahmad's first thought was that someone had thrown yet another bomb at the police.

He was right. On Wednesday night an explosive device was hurled at the police station in Rosengard, a troubled area of Malmo, Sweden's third largest city.

Attacks on the police are increasingly frequent. Rosengard's force works from a

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"I knew it was a bomb again," said Ahmad, 53, who lives in the area with his wife and their four teenage children.

Sweden is among the world's safest, richest and best-run countries enjoying steady growth and rising employment. But it has been experiencing an unprecedented surge of gang shootings, bombings and sexual assaults.



Rosengard police station was attacked

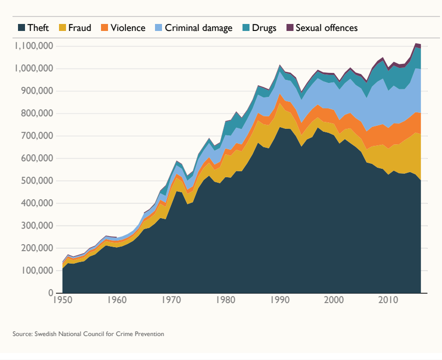
In a country of 10m people, more than 320 shootings and dozens of bombings were reported in 2017, along with more than 110 murders and 7,226 rapes — a 10% increase on 2016. More than 36% of young Swedish women say they feel unsafe at night.

The authorities have admitted they are unable to investigate rape cases immediately because the resources are focused on gang crime. "We are forced to choose between two evils," the police said.

The crime surge is mainly confined to so-called "areas of social exclusion", a code for neighbourhoods such as Rosengard that are predominantly populated by immigrants. They are not classic ghettos — the infrastructure and services are better than in areas of central London — but these communities are plagued by high crime rates and unemployment.

In Malmo, where a fifth of the 340,000 inhabitants are under 18, children as young as 14 roam the streets with Kalashnikov assault rifles and bulletproof vests. The average age of gang members is 22, the vast majority of them hailing from migrant families.

Recorded crime in Sweden by type



Source: Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention

Did you find this chart helpful? YES NO

Sweden has pursued a liberal immigration policy for more than a generation; its government speaks of being a "humanitarian superpower" for having taken in a large number of asylum seekers. After the migrant crisis of 2015, when more than 160,000 people sought asylum, the policy was abruptly changed. Yet there is little debate or reliable data about the integration of the 12% of the population that derive from non-western countries.

For a long time the Swedish establishment played down the decay of immigrant-dominated suburbs, but it can no longer ignore the explosion of violence.

Stefan Lofven, the Social Democrat prime minister, said last week that he was ready to deploy the military to "stamp out" organised crime. The next day another bomb went off in Malmo, this time in front of a private property.

"We have really reached the bottom: people use machineguns and hand grenades — they want to kill," said Zoran Markovic, the former chief of community policing in Rosengard.

Markovic, a decorated officer, is the Swedish-born son of immigrants from Serbia. Rosengard's new fortified police station was built after his locker room in the old building was peppered with bullets in a drive-by shooting.

The situation has drastically worsened in the past two years. Markovic said the police are overstretched. Rosengard's main school, which had pupils from nearly 200 different ethnic backgrounds, was closed because of social tension.

Barely three miles away, in Malmo's centre, there is little sign of the crime epidemic. The old Hanseatic port is a vibrant area of medieval cobblestoned squares and contemporary architecture.

This is replicated across the country. Alongside the pockets of violence, Sweden continues to flourish, with low crime rates and a booming economy. Its citizens read about gangland wars with disbelief, although crime is increasingly spilling into middle-class areas.

Ted Eriksson, 34, was inspired to become a police officer after a stint as an assistant to Kenneth Branagh, the British actor, during the filming of the Wallander crime series.

Last August Eriksson was on duty at a pro-refugee rally in Stockholm when he was stabbed by an Afghan asylum seeker. He survived with minor injuries. The assailant claimed to be 17 but was suspected of being in his late twenties. He said he wanted to kill a policeman.

Rinkeby, a 20-minute metro ride from Stockholm's old centre, is one of Sweden's most crime-ridden areas. Paramedics and firefighters demand a police escort to go there. After nightfall, gangs of young men dominate the streets, offering drugs at the entrance to the station. A 25-year-old man was shot dead in a pizzeria this month.

When I visited Rinkeby last week a group of youths in shell suits aggressively asked why I was in their neighbourhood. Their tone turned more respectful when they found out that I am from the Balkans — the homeland of many local criminal kingpins. Born and raised in Rinkeby, they declared themselves not Swedish but Somali, Afghan or Lebanese.

Hanif Azizi, who came to Sweden from Iran as an unaccompanied refugee at the age of nine nearly 30 years ago, is a senior policeman in Rinkeby. "Hating police is part of some of these kids' cultures. If as a society we have decided to take in refugees, we must set high standards: not ask what our society can do for them, but what they can do for our society," he said.

Norway's immigration minister, Sylvi Listhaug, visited Rinkeby last year to "learn" from the mistakes of "uncontrolled migration and poor integration".

Stockholm's mayor, Karin Wanngard, protested that Rinkeby was a "fine neighbourhood" and "teeming with vitality".

A spate of shootings forced her to change her tune. The "growing brutality" among gangs has become "unprecedented" she said earlier this month.

It is taboo to make a link between immigrants and crime, according to Tino Sanandaji, a Swedish economist of Iranian-Kurdish origin who argues in Mass Challenge, his bestselling book, that the country has failed to integrate many newcomers: "Sweden was successful in abolishing the traditional class society, but politicians are now creating an ethnic underclass."

Criticism of Sweden's immigration policy has been the prerogative of the unsavoury far right for so long that Sanandaji's book, soon to be published in English, was blacklisted by some public libraries, despite praise from experts.

"The attacks would have ended my career had I been a white ethnic Swede," he said.

Paulina Neuding, an internationally acclaimed writer, was accused of xenophobia for linking the rise of anti-semitic and sexual crime to mass migration.

Neuding, 36, born to a Jewish family who migrated from Poland, said Sweden is experiencing a "sexual assault crisis".

Statistics published last week revealed the percentage of women who reported being victims of sex crimes rose from 1.4% in 2012 to 4.1% in 2016. In 2014 a study on the geography of outdoor rape in Stockholm found two-thirds of the suspects were non-Swedish citizens.

"Our government declared itself the world's first feminist government, yet they have quietly abandoned women," Neuding said. "There is mounting evidence that large-scale migration of men from extremely patriarchal cultures is limiting women's freedom."

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John L 21 hours ago
Easy to break something. Not so easy to fix.

Recommend | Reply

Henry Obblering 2 days ago
I read about this trouble brewing in Col. Walter Richmond's brilliant book "Hasta la Vista Europe." http://amzn.to/2Fihkti While he covered all European nations, he wrote quite a bit about Sweden, likely as there was so much trouble there. I particularity remember that it was getting so bad they had to issue bullet-proof vests to ambulance drivers and firefighters. Very twisted indeed for migrants to choose to attack firefighters and ambulance drivers... There is NO doubt that the situation in Sweden foreshadows what is on the horizon for many others.

2 Recommend | Reply

Luke Watts-Apnin 3 days ago
Some readers might find this clip from the BBCs Sunday Politics rather an eye-opener.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANCXmgA_V70

2 Recommend | Reply

Tera Gypsi 6 days ago
You are so spot on. Friends an relatives just chuckle or ignore me,I am nuts it's a great place over there. Well not anymore

8 Recommend | Reply

Mr David Devore 6 days ago
I attended the changing of the guard at the Royal Palace in Stockholm a few years ago. The idea that the Swedish Army could cope or do *anything* to resolve civil disorder is ludicrous.

6 Recommend | Reply

Scott Nudds 6 days ago
@Mr David Devore The idea that the Clown Car U.S. army could do anything to resolve civil disorder is ludicrous as well.

Or is your plan to convert your nation into a fascist military state?

Recommend | Reply

Mr David Devore 6 days ago
@Scott Nudds @Mr David Devore In using the word, 'resolve', I may have chosen poorly, but the US Army (or, in reality, the National Guard) has been effective on many occasions in restoring order.

Having lived in and visited countries that were military dictatorships, I have a good idea what these are like.

5 Recommend | Reply

Mark Lowe 6 days ago
Wow... not a single mention of the m-word in that whole article. Like unto the rampant bands of violent "teens" in America that the press are always loathe to fully spec out. Welcome to P.C.!

17 Recommend | Reply

Scott Nudds 6 days ago
@Mark Lowe "M word"? You must Mean "Moron", and Morons are typically from the Clown Car American nation.

Morons you see, don't do numbers, and can't read graphs. You know, like the one shown above, and which shows virtually no increase in violent crime over the last 20 years.

Hahahahaha..... Pathetic

Recommend | Reply

Claire Elliott 6 days ago
There are none so blind as those who won't see

18 Recommend | Reply

chris edwards 4 days ago
@Scott Nudds @Mark Lowe
Probably true that morons struggle to read graphs.
Like the one above that shows a 70% increase in violent crime in the last 20 years.

5 Recommend | Reply

Luke Watts-Apnin 3 days ago
@Mark Lowe If you haven't seen it already try watching the clip behind the link I've posted above Mark - very interesting to see a country in such abject denial. Europe offers people the opportunity to start a new and better life and all they do is bring with them their vile misogyny and anti-western attitudes and turn our societies into the sort of s--tholes from whence they came.

6 Recommend | Reply

John Wooding 6 days ago
The UK will become more like the Sweden this article describes if Brexit happens. Those trade deals with India, Pakistan, Nigeria and many other countries larger than the UK and less in need of a trade deal will make us the weaker partner in the negotiations and will involve us having to allow visa-free movement for their nationals. India has already said that to May when she tried to start trade talks months ago. We always had means of controlling freedom of movement from the EU that we didn't use in the way that Belgium and many others do. Now how many people from alternative cultures would you like to come to Britain as the price of Brexit, maybe without us being able to negotiate any controls over who, how much they integrate, ...?

1 Recommend | Reply

Mr David Devore 6 days ago
@John Wooding As you can see if you open your eyes, there has been...and continues to be... a lot of immigration from the Indian sub-continent --- and we are still part of the EU! I don't, frankly, see any connection between Brexit and increased immigration. Indeed, one of the drivers of Brexit was 'too much' immigration.

22 Recommend | Reply

Whiteshark 6 days ago
John Wooding,
Maybe the answer for such trade talks is to have a bilateral agreement whereby we equalise the numbers moving to and from each partner ? Eg. 1000 Brits move to ,say,Nigeria and 1000 Nigerians move to Britain .
Who could possibly argue against such an equal agreement ?

7 Recommend | Reply

Scott Nudds 6 days ago
@John Wooding "The UK will become more like Sweden."

The U.K. has already become a meaningless pipsqueak nation. No one cares what it becomes. But becoming more like Sweden would of course be a net positive for the U.K.

4 Recommend | Reply

Mus Onius 6 days ago
"Ideology is a mechanism for rejecting facts when they threaten to force a reexamination of cherished dogma. And it invents facts when necessary to the survival of the dogma."
— Jean-François Revel,

13 Recommend | Reply

James Barnes 6 days ago
It is a shame that people are such sellouts. They will trade the truth for social acceptance all day long.

14 Recommend | Reply

J47 6 days ago
Surely, Virgin Trains is going to ban The Times paper and Facebook algoithm is going to identify this as Fake News!

On the other hand, someone at Fox and Friends mentions this in the morning and Trump tweets about it.

10 Recommend | Reply

JOHN CAMPBELL 6 days ago
I congratulate the Times on publishing this article; such news would never appear on the BBC.

45 Recommend | Reply

Daniel Dravot 6 days ago
Import people that want to burn your civilization to the ground, then act surprised when the fire starts.

48 Recommend | Reply

flyingcolours 7 days ago
Trump was on to something it seems.

31 Recommend | Reply

Stellan Brandt 7 days ago
Do the maths! Only during the last 10 years, Sweden has accepted more than 1 million immigrants-and this on a population of only 9 million. According to official statistics ever since the 90's, some 50% of new-arrivals have never had a job thus living on benefits-so what's the benefit to the country?

41 Recommend | Reply

Ogdens' Nut Gone Flake 6 days ago
Mmmm think that's a big fat zero!

11 Recommend | Reply

Jon Woolery 7 days ago
Did I read that right? Kids roaming the streets sporting AK-47's?? In Europe??? Even here in the USA one doesn't see such a thing.... unless of course the weaponry is actually being fired. But at least there's a modicum of discretion before that point.

55 Recommend | Reply

den Lombard 7 days ago
The overwhelming, vast majority of the terrorist attacks and the ever rising body count on American and European soil can be laid directly at the feet of the open border, one world, diversity loving multiculturalist Liberals on one side, and in-the-pocket of big business Conservatives who want cheap labor.

They are forcing mass genocide upon our people and the end of Western Civilization. Secular Progressive are killing Europe, just like they destroyed many of our major cities. Progressives live a delusional fantasy based existence. They insist that Diversity is a joy, and 3rd World Multiculturalism is a strength. No amount of imported 3rd World violence, diseases and social decay can change it.

These twisted individuals invite the fox to live in the hen house, and then are shocked and bewildered when there are dead chickens. Their twisted response is that it wasn't caused by putting the fox in the hen house, so...LET'S GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY!...again...and again.... and again....

"Progressives" is a misnomer. Turning America and Europe into a violent 3rd world cesspool is not progress. 'Primeval Regressives' would be a more accurate title.

The Stefan Lofven's, Angela Merkel's, Jean-Claude Juncker's, Hillary Clinton's and Chuck Schumer's of the world are sick; the type of corrupt treasonous politicians that can only bring misery and death to our people. We have far too many of these treasonous fools leading us to our destruction.

There will be more and more violence and suffering on the alter of Multiculturalism & Political Correctness. Both brought to you by the same Liberal ideology that has turned many of our once great cites, that represented the zenith of modern Western Civilization, into violent crime ridden cesspools, no go zones, and welfare dependencies.

And they will never quit until your children are 4th rate citizens in a 3rd world country. Where they will show your children NONE of the politically correct, suicidal "tolerance" you showed them."

Our ancestors established borders for a reason. To protect and preserve our survival and our culture against other tribes that wanted to kill us and destroy it. These Diversity Loving Multi-Culti's have removed those borders, and they have done nothing but cause social chaos and catastrophic personal suffering to many of our citizens ever since.

Diversity is NOT a Joy, Multiculturalism is NOT a strength. History has shown they are a constant source of social friction, violence, pain, death, and mourning. The citizens of the West are being murdered in the streets, and our woman and children are being sexually abused and raped. How many more innocent victims before we realize this multi-culti propaganda is nothing but an evil lie meant to exploit the majorities' goodwill to others' selfish advantage at the destruction of our own lives and well-being.

Never in the history of mankind has a nation and its people purposely strived for, and celebrated their own destruction. It is straight out insanity.

"Quem deus vult perdere, dementat prius."

"Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad"

'Tolerance And Apathy Are The Last Virtues Of A Dying Society'

Liberalism is the insane ideology of Western suicide.

130 Recommend | Reply

RH 7 days ago
@den Lombard Wow thats a war and peace, however I do agree somewhat. The open door policies of the past five years, were ill conceived with no real objective, integration is impossible whilst there is a lack of respect for the accepting culture.

39 Recommend | Reply

John B 7 days ago
Well said.

14 Recommend | Reply

Scott Nudds 7 days ago
@den Lombard "The Stefan Lofven's, Angela Merkel's, Jean-Claude Juncker's, Hillary Clinton's and Chuck Schumer's of the world are sick"

Hahahahahahaha... Man Lombard. you are one hell of a confused loser. No doubt you are the kind of kook who thinks that everyone on your list is a member of the Illuminati, or being controlled by moon beams from the Martians.

LOL!

'Tolerance And Apathy Are The Last Virtues Of A Dying Society'

Hohohohohohoho... Man.. You are mentally ill. You need to see a proctologist.

1 Recommend | Reply

Luke Watts-Apnin 3 days ago
@Scott Nudds @den Lombard Yet den Lombard gleans 119 recommends and your sorry effort only 1 - in a liberal paper like The Times!

3 Recommend | Reply

JOHN CAMPBELL 6 days ago
@den Lombard
Thank you for taking the time to give an excellent summary of the problems we have created by embracing large scale immigration over a short time scale. The future is not bright; it will be the agenda set by the religion which we dare not name.

24 Recommend | Reply

David Lehner 7 days ago
The truth about the Swedish economy is that about half a million Swedes currently earn their living outside of Sweden, while another million have left permanently over the last quarter century to escape the high taxes. Once one looks outside Stockholm one sees that the country is not so wealthy after all. Poor towns and almost empty shops. They have lost many of their major industries (SAAB auto closed, Volvo sold, the glassmaking industry shut down) and they subsist like a third world country on extraction industries (timber, iron ore). Unemployment is masked by a number of means (such calling the unemployed "students" and registering them for classes which they do not want and will not attend). At virtually every grocery store you see beggars sitting on the sidewalk asking for handouts (all non-Swedes). Violent crime has skyrocketed, also at the hands of non-Swedes. The people in the country know all this, even though the government does its best to to hide it. Sweden is in very big trouble socially and economically, and they don't seem to have the courage to face the facts and find a way out.

87 Recommend | Reply

Klog 7 days ago
The same mistake that will blight most of Europe in the years ahead.

62 Recommend | Reply

crw 7 days ago
Me being the second generation of immigrant parents I know that it is possible to adjust and give from your own culture to the new home. The problem lies in that the government doesn't take care of those who flee from war or injustice. The far-right movement in Sweden is something that me, my family and friends fear even if we see ourselves as Swedes and have integrated into the society.

These kids in Rosengård and Rinkeby are just lost souls that didn't get the chance nor got the help to be a part of the Swedish society and no one probably ever made them feel like they belonged in their new country. That is mostly what I hear from people who live in these so-called "ghettos".

11 Recommend | Reply

Grumpy Old Man 7 days ago
@crw If I understand you correctly your belief is that tolerant Swedes have to become even more tolerant in order to accommodate intolerant immigrants.

29 Recommend | Reply

crw 6 days ago
@Careless Wispers
I think Swedes are tolerant but have lost faith in the political system and grown bitter seeing everything come tumbling down. I get the feeling that the government has lost grip of the problem and everybody is suffering from it, both the newcomers and the locals.

4 Recommend | Reply

Mark Lowe 6 days ago
Sounds like maybe you have some work to do, brother. These lost souls may actually listen to you, eh?

Recommend | Reply

crw 6 days ago
@Mark Lowe sister here. I sense some sarcasm in your comment?

Recommend | Reply

Tera Gypsi 6 days ago
They don't want to be like that country they want that country to change to fit their way of life.Which is what screwed them to begin with. They WILL NOT WORK,at least most of them not all. There are some good humuns in every culture. They gave them everything food a place to live money yet they still want to kill you all and they.will be more than happy to tell you that is their intent. Ask them you will see

3 Recommend | Reply

crw 6 days ago
@Tera Gypsi *please comment if you have something relevant to bring to the discussion.*

Recommend | Reply

rand064 7 days ago
Sweden will be the better country for immigration and will get through this difficult period.

The UK went through a similar period between 1975 - 1985. Headed by tabloid newspapers the influx of West Indians in the 1950/60s was too large and too sudden, we are all now paying the price for it. Powell was right many screamed.

Thirty years on only the most ignorant of racists still argue there are too many West Indians in the country. No politician that wanted to be elected would dare mention West Indians in their speeches. Its all about Muslims today. They are fair game for populist politicians mainly because they are impoverished communities and as of yet to do not political voices to speak out on their behalf.

4 Recommend | Reply

Lucy's dad 7 days ago
@rand064
Deluded fool.

16 Recommend | Reply

Low Grader 7 days ago
You are lost. West Indians are not part of a death cult...turns out they are Christian. You can look it uo if you don't believe it.

9 Recommend | Reply

Tera Gypsi 6 days ago
Yes but their religion does not demand that they destroy anyone who does not believe their way. Indian's did not do that, so no comparison from the way I understand it anyway,who knows

1 Recommend | Reply

Laurence Flynn 7 days ago
I can't understand how any sane man, in any position of power, could stand back and let this happen to their country, because all the politicians do know about it. They and the Media tell enough lies and half truths to know what it is they are trying to avoid and cover up for. Oh and lets not forget their going after Trump because of the truth that he says, the insider secret on Islam that everyone either knows or has an inkling of.

56 Recommend | Reply

sumwot 7 days ago
Sweden is going down the pan on a tide of libertarian dogma.

36 Recommend | Reply

G W F Hegel 7 days ago
@sumwot Not 'libertarian' (look up the meaning of the word), but regressive left and feminist dogma.

43 Recommend | Reply

sumwot 7 days ago
@G W F Hegel @sumwot Thanks, I'm aware of the dictionary definition but the reality is that personal freedom dominates and responsibility is disdained.

Sometimes you just have to wait for the dictionaries to catch up.

12 Recommend | Reply

Vivien Hall 7 days ago
The far right, as they are labelled, tell the truth for years and are condemned for it. But in the end those in power have to admit that the truth is a rise in violence etc from migrant communities. Politicians keep saying that diversity is our strength. Yet when I was growing up we were always taught the truth that Divided we fall. Now Sweden is learning that lesson the hard way. Trump was right when he told about the problems in Sweden but he was condemned for telling the truth. When will the majority wake up to the problems presented by importing cultures that will not integrate but expect the indigenous population to change for them?

72 Recommend | Reply

rand064 7 days ago
@Vivien Hall "The far right, as they are labelled, tell the truth for years"

The far right do not tell the truth. They tell nothing but lies. Lies that led to the murder of 10 million Jews, Gypsies and people from ethnic backgrounds between 1933 - 1945.

4 Recommend | Reply

Ogdens' Nut Gone Flake 7 days ago
And then the ant Semites of the Labour Party derided history and backed up radical Islam who said it was all lies and still do ! Two can play your game mate !

31 Recommend | Reply

Adam Brown 7 days ago
Who backed up radical Islam?

Recommend | Reply

Lucy's dad 7 days ago
@rand064 @Vivien Hall
Yeah and Mao Stalin PolPot and Mugabe murdered many many more millions, Stalin at least 20 million Mao the same.

3 Recommend | Reply

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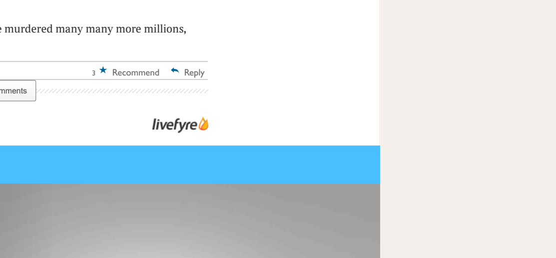
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